Attorney Docket No. 46146-C2 (71758)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S):

Peter R. Rhode et al.

EXAMINER: Unassigned.

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(Cont. of USSN 09/067,615 filed 4/28/98)

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Patricia A Rarnes

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS WASHINGTON, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination of the above-referenced patent application, please amend the application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, below the title please insert - This is a continuation of Application No. 09/067,615, filed April 28, 1998, which application is a continuation of USSN 08/596,387 filed on January 31, 1996 (now U. S. Pat. No. 5,869,270). The disclosures of